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FLORA AND FUNGA RECORDS

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Notulae to the Italian alien vascular flora: 19

Gabriele Galasso[1], Gianniantonio Domina[2], Fabrizio Bartolucci[3], Francesca Buffi[4], Dario Ciaramella[5], Emanuele Del Guacchio[6], Tancredi Fogazza[7], Daniel Fontana[8], Antonio Giacò[9], Giacomo Grasseschi[8], Sara Landi[10], Quintino G. Manni[11], Francesco Mascia[12], Giacomo Mei[13], Ilaria Mezza[5], Riccardo Motti[14], Gaetano Pazienza[15], Silvia Pirani[16], Luca Quaranta[5], Simone Ravetto Enri[17], Lorenzo Lastrucci[18]

1 *Sezione di Botanica, Museo di Storia Naturale di Milano, Corso Venezia 55, 20121 Milano, Italy* **2** *Dipartimento di Scienze Agrarie, Alimentari e Forestali (SAAF), Università di Palermo, Viale delle Scienze, edificio 4, 90128 Palermo, Italy* **3** *Centro Ricerche Floristiche dell'Appennino (Università di Camerino - Parco Nazionale del Gran Sasso e Monti della Laga), San Colombo, 67021 Barisciano (L'Aquila), Italy* **4** *Dipartimento di Biologia Ambientale, Sapienza Università di Roma, Piazzale A. Moro 5, 00185 Roma, Italy* **5** *Dipartimento di Bioscienze e Territorio, Università del Molise, Via H. Hertz s.n.c., 86090 Pesche (Isernia), Italy* **6** *Dipartimento di Biologia, Università di Napoli Federico II, c/o Orto Botanico, Via Foria 223, 80139 Napoli, Italy* **7** *Arpa Sicilia, Lungomare C. Colombo s.n.c., 90100 Palermo, Italy* **8** *Ecological Research and Services for the Environment (ERSE), Via Aurelia Sud 291, 55049 Viareggio (Lucca), Italy* **9** *PLANTSEED Lab, Dipartimento di Biologia, Università di Pisa, Via Derna 1, 56126 Pisa, Italy* **10** *GREENARCO, Viale G. Fanin 48, 40127 Bologna, Italy* **11** *Via San Michele s.n.c., 73040 Alliste (Lecce), Italy* **12** *Dipartimento di Scienze della Vita, Università di Siena, Via P.A. Mattioli 4, 53100 Siena, Italy* **13** *Facoltà di Scienze Agrarie, Ambientali e Alimentari, Libera Università di Bolzano, Piazza Università 5, 39100 Bolzano, Italy* **14** *Dipartimento di Agraria, Università di Napoli Federico II, Reggia di Portici, Piazza Carlo di Borbone 1, 80055 Portici (Napoli), Italy* **15** *Dipartimento di Bioscienze, Biotecnologie e Ambiente (DBBA), Università di Bari Aldo Moro, Piazza Umberto I, 70121 Bari, Italy* **16** *Via E. Rubino 2/c, 10137 Torino, Italy* **17** *Dipartimento di Scienze Agrarie, Forestali e Alimentari (DISAFA), Università di Torino, Largo P. Braccini 2, 10095 Grugliasco (Torino), Italy* **18** *Sistema Museale di Ateneo, Università di Firenze, Via G. La Pira 4, 50121 Firenze, Italy*

Corresponding author: Gabriele Galasso (gabriele.galasso@comune.milano.it)

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Abstract

In this contribution, new data concerning the distribution of vascular flora alien to Italy are presented. It includes new records, exclusions, and status changes from casual to naturalized for Italy or for Italian administrative regions for taxa in the genera *Abutilon*, *Aloë*, *Asparagus*, *Bidens*, *Cortaderia*, *Cyperus*, *Lonicera*, *Melia*, *Sesbania*, and *Ulmus*. A new combination in the nothogenus ×*Aloiampaloë* is proposed. Nomenclatural and distribution updates, published elsewhere, and corrections are provided as Suppl. material 1.

Keywords

Alien species, floristic data, Italy, new combination, nomenclature

How to contribute

The text for the new records, status changes from casual to naturalized or invasive, exclusions, and confirmations should be submitted electronically to Lorenzo Lastrucci (lorenzo.lastrucci@unifi.it). The corresponding specimen along with its scan or photograph has to be sent to FI Herbarium: Museo di Storia Naturale (Botanica), Sistema Museale di Ateneo, Via G. La Pira 4, 50121 Firenze (Italy). Those texts concerning nomenclatural novelties and typifications (only for accepted names) should be submitted electronically to Gabriele Galasso (gabriele.galasso@comune.milano.it). Each text should be within 1,000 characters (spaces included).

Floristic records

Abutilon theophrasti Medik. (Malvaceae)

\+ (NAT) **UMB**: Attigliano (Terni), sponda idrografica sinistra del Fiume Tevere (WGS84: 42.492226°N, 12.296000°E), comunità pioniere nitrofile a fenologia tardo-estiva sviluppate su colture cerealicole mietute, 596 m, 10 August 2024, *F. Mascia, S. Landi* (FI). – Status change from casual to naturalized alien for the flora of Umbria.

In Umbria, the taxon is recorded as a casual alien (Galasso et al. 2024). In the observed locality thousands of naturalized individuals were observed within summer-autumn phenology therophytic communities, developed in harvested cereal fields.

S. Landi, F. Mascia

Aloë brachystachys Baker (Asphodelaceae)

– **ITALIA** (**SIC**). – Alien species to be excluded from the flora of Italy (Sicilia).

This species was recorded in Sicilia for Capo Rama (Pavone et al. 2022). However, according to Guillot Ortiz et al. (2009) and Serapio et al. (2023) this population is to be attributed to the nothospecies ×*Aloiampaloë delaetii* (Radl) Galasso,

Q.G.Manni & Domina, recently recorded by Montoleone (2022; record from 2019) from Pantelleria, Inghilleri (2024) from Balestrate (Palermo), and Aleo and Bazan (2025) from Misiliscemi (Trapani).

G. Galasso, Q.G. Manni, G. Domina

***Asparagus setaceus* (Kunth) Jessop (Asparagaceae)**

+ (NAT) **PUG**: Massafra (Taranto), loc. Chiatona (WGS84: 40.523395°N, 17.059347°E), vegetazione sinantropica di recupero in aree disturbate di radure, vegetazione forestale rada e bordi stradali, 7 m, 29 April 2024, *G. Mei, G. Pazienza* (FI, *Herb. G. Mei*). – Status change from casual to naturalized alien for the flora of Puglia.

The recent discovery of a well-established population in Massafra, characterized by individuals across various age classes and the presence of new shoots and seedlings, indicates a change in status for *Asparagus setaceus* in Puglia, from casual alien species to naturalized.

G. Mei, G. Pazienza

***Bidens pilosa* L. (Asteraceae)**

+ (NAT) **BAS**: Maratea (Potenza), lungo la strada SS18 presso Acquafredda (WGS84: 40.042700°N, 15.657703°E), bordo strada e garighe mediterranee, 160 m, 5 June 2024, leg. *F. Buffi, D. Fontana*, det. *F. Buffi, D. Fontana, A. Giacò* (FI). – Naturalized alien species new for the flora of Basilicata.

The population is particularly abundant.

F. Buffi, D. Fontana

***Cortaderia selloana* (Schult. & Schult.f.) Asch. & Graebn. (Poaceae)**

+ (NAT) **MOL**: Isernia (Isernia), strada SR627 (WGS84: 41.57738°N, 14.19672°E), bordo strada, 345 m, 24 September 2024, *L. Quaranta, I. Mezza* (FI, IS). – Naturalized alien species new for the flora of Molise.

We found several individuals in the province of Isernia, in the municipalities of Fornelli, Isernia, and Pizzone. Specifically, the sample was collected at the edge of an olive grove, along the road connecting Isernia to the municipality of Fornelli.

L. Quaranta, I. Mezza

***Cyperus eragrostis* Lam. (Cyperaceae)**

+ (NAT) **MOL**: Campobasso (Campobasso), Zona Industriale Colle delle Api (WGS84: 41.586946°N, 14.670751°E), bordo strada fangoso, 750 m, 3 December 2024, *D. Ciaramella* (FI). – Naturalized alien species new for the flora of Molise.

A localized population of ca. 15 well-established, flowering individuals was observed along a road edge, spanning a stretch of about 100 meters. The plants were growing in hydromorphic, shallow soils, coexisting with other ruderal species, such as *Euphorbia*

peplus L., *Geranium rotundifolium* L., *Mercurialis annua* L., *Oloptum miliaceum* (L.) Röser & H.R.Hamasha, and *Sonchus oleraceus* L. This horticulturally important species is native to tropical South America, and has become an invasive weed spreading across warm-temperate regions of the world, including parts of southern Europe, a process facilitated by global warming (Verloove 2014; Stoyanov and Barzov 2018).

D. Ciaramella

***Lonicera biflora* Desf. (Caprifoliaceae)**

– **CAM**. – Alien species to be excluded from the flora of Campania.

Lonicera biflora was reported in Campania for a few localities in the Metropolitan City of Naples (e.g., De Natale and La Valva 2000; Motti and Ricciardi 2005), but possibly by mistake with *L. japonica* Thunb. (Del Guacchio and La Valva 2017). Indeed, after the revision by Del Guacchio et al. (2020), the only left indication for the region, as well as for continental Italy (Galasso et al. 2024), is that for Portici (Stinca and Motti 2009), which has not been confirmed neither in the field nor in herbaria. In addition, it is not recorded among the plants cultivated at the Botanical Garden of Portici (Motti R., pers. obs.).

R. Motti, E. Del Guacchio

***Melia azedarach* L. (Meliaceae)**

+ (NAT) **MOL**: Termoli (Campobasso), loc. Marinelle (WGS84: 41.957403°N, 15.023689°E), bordo di strade adiacenti ad aree agricole e suburbane, 2 m, 5 November 2024, leg. *D. Fontana, G. Grasseschi*, det. *D. Fontana, A. Giacò, G. Grasseschi* (FI). – Naturalized alien species new for the flora of Molise.

The population consists of four groups located approximately one kilometer apart. Each group, one of which was fruiting at the time of collection, comprises several individuals with basal shoots. Since it is known that root sprouts of this species have a higher percentage of survival than seedlings (Tourn et al. 1999), smaller individuals may derive either from seed germination and vegetative propagation. Thus, we propose to classify *Melia azedarach* as a new naturalized species for Molise.

A. Giacò, G. Grasseschi

***Sesbania punicea* (Cav.) Benth. (Fabaceae)**

+ (NAT) **SIC**: Scillato (Palermo), Imera Settentrionale (o Fiume Grande) (WGS84: 37.860327°N, 13.895469°E), greto fluviale asciutto, 173 m, 27 October 2024, *T. Fogazza* (FI). – Status change from casual to naturalized alien for the flora of Sicilia.

The first and only recorded occurrence of *Sesbania punicea* in Sicilia was documented by Raimondo and Spadaro (2006) along the coast of Termini Imerese, where it was considered a casual introduction. However, a recent discovery of a significant population at Fiume Grande raises concerns. This population exhibits robust seed

production and is actively colonizing the dry riverbed, potentially threatening the delicate and often sparse riparian and riverbed vegetation of Sicilian rivers.

T. Fogazza

***Ulmus pumila* L. (Ulmaceae)**

+ (NAT) **BAS**: Rivello (Potenza), lungo la strada SS585 "Fondo Valle del Noce" nei pressi della Contrada Fiumicello (WGS84: 40.050065°N, 15.775747°E), sulle scarpate stradali, 280 m, 12 August 2024, *S. Pirani, S. Ravetto Enri* (FI). – Naturalized alien species new for the flora of Basilicata.

This invasive alien species has already been reported in almost all the Italian regions in recent decades (from Celesti-Grapow et al. 2009 to Musarella et al. 2024). In Basilicata, several individuals of various ages and sizes can be found in well-established populations along the edges of major roads, such as the SS585. *Ulmus pumila*, likely originating from seeds carried by vehicles along main roads, should, therefore, be considered a naturalized species even in this region of southern Italy.

S. Pirani, S. Ravetto Enri

Nomenclatural novelties

×Aloiampaloë delaetii (Radl) Galasso, Q.G.Manni & Domina, comb. nov.

Bas.: *Aloë ×delaetii* Radl, Monatsschr. Kakteenk. 6(2): 24. 1896 [February 1896].
= *Aloë succotrina* Weston × *Aloiampelos ciliaris* (Haw.) Klopper & Gideon F.Sm.
– *Aloë brachystachys* auct. Fl. Ital., non Baker
– *Aloë lastii* auct. Fl. Ital., non Baker

The intergeneric horticultural hybrid *Aloë succotrina* × *Aloiampelos ciliaris* (≡ *Aloë ciliaris* Haw.) (Guillot Ortiz et al. 2009; Serapio et al. 2023), is an ornamental nothospecies widely cultivated in historical Sicilian gardens (Bazan et al. 2005). It is found in many private gardens along the coast of Sicily and the surrounding islands as an ornamental plant and has become a casual alien in several localities. Rowley (2014) proposed *×Aloiampaloë* G.D.Rowley as the name for the artificial crosses between the genera *Aloiampelos* Klopper & Gideon F.Sm. and *Aloë* L. Therefore, the required new combination is here proposed.

G. Galasso, Q.G. Manni,G. Domina

Nomenclatural and distribution updates from other literature sources

Nomenclatural, status, and distribution updates according to Bertoloni (1850), Arcangeli (1876), Marchesetti (1882), Loos (2004), Brouillet (2006), Tzeng and Huang (2009), Small (2011), Gestri and Peruzzi (2013), Knapp et al. (2013), Bosi et al. (2014),

Lucchese (2017), Selvi et al. (2017), Turland at al. (2018), Al-Shehbaz (2021), German (2022), Bovio et al. (2024), Bruschi et al. (2024), Cravello et al. (2024a, 2024b), Dagnino and Turcato (2024), Feng et al. (2024), Gallo (2024), Gallo and Smith (2024), Ganz et al. (2024), Gariboldi (2024), Laface at al. (2024), Peruzzi et al. (2024), POWO (2024 [onwards]), Smith (2024), Aleo and Bazan (2025), Alessandrini et al. (2025), Cohen (2025), Conti et al. (2025), Montagnani et al. (2025), Peruzzi et al. (2025), Pierini and Peruzzi (2025), Pinzani (2025), POWO (2025a [onwards], 2025b [onwards], 2025c [onwards], 2025d [onwards]), Pteridophyte Collections Consortium (2025), Roma-Marzio et al. (2025), Sassone et al. (2025), Sukhorukov et al. (2025), Vasile et al. (2025), Böhnert et al. (in print), and corrections to Galasso et al. (2024), available at the Portal to the Flora of Italy (2025), are provided in Suppl. material 1.

G. Galasso, F. Bartolucci

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Supplementary material 1

Supplementary data

Authors: Gabriele Galasso, Fabrizio Bartolucci

Data type: pdf

Explanation note: 1. Nomenclatural updates; 2. Note updates; 3. Distribution updates; 4. Synonyms, misapplied or included names.

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